REMARKS

Pending claims 33-55 are cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 56-78 are entered herein.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 56-78 overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, and are free of the prior art references cited under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that all grounds of rejection have been overcome, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is encourage to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Appl. No.: 10/521,679

Date: June 15, 2009 By: /Sandra B. Weiss/

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